



ABSTRACT
 This issue paper was developed by a task force of poultry scientists and industry experts to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of free-range poultry production systems. The report discusses the impact of these systems on animal health, human health, productivity, environment, food safety, and animal welfare issues. The task force consists of eight members, including Jacqueline Jacob and Anthony Pescatore, who served as co-chairs.

CAST Issue Paper 61

Impact of Free-range Poultry Production Systems on Animal Health, Human Health, Productivity, Environment, Food Safety, and Animal Welfare Issues

Released July 18, 2018

Cochairs: Jacqueline Jacob and Anthony Pescatore, University of Kentucky; 8-member task force

Release/Rollout

On July 18, Drs. Jacquie Jacob and Tony Pescatore, the task force co-chairs, gave a breakfast presentation to an audience at the Food

Marketing Institute offices, which was followed by a panel discussion. They then conducted briefings for House staffers at a noon National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NC-FAR) lunch seminar, which was followed by a presentation to Senate staffers in the afternoon, also in coordination with NC-FAR. Approximately 40 attended these three briefings.

In-kind Contributions: 255 volunteer hours; \$18,870 monetary value

Press Release (results two weeks after release)

- Press release went to 10,170 e-contacts (2,196 media) resulting in 3,859 opens/interactions
- 362,792 headline impressions, and 136 total pickups on [press release through PRWeb](#).
- A sampling of sites where the release was picked up: Benzinga, MeatingPlace, Oklahoma Farm Report, RFDTV, PoultryProducer.com, Zoetis Influence Feed Newsletter, and multiple ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX news channel affiliates.

Follow-On Activities

- Video of the July 18 presentation and slides posted on CAST website and YouTube. [Click here to view](#). (603 views as of July 18, 2020)
- Poultry Science Association awarded the CAST Educational Materials Award, Certificate of Excellence for all of the authors efforts in creation of this issue paper. (2018) <https://poultryscience.org/About-Awards-2020>

Paper Distribution: 6,917

- Issue Paper and Ag quickCAST Downloads—2 years after release: 6,387
- Distributed more than 530 copies of printed issue paper

Indirect Paper Distribution

ACSESS Digital Library

<https://dl.sciencesocieties.org/issue-papers>

This report last updated 7/18/2020.

CAB Direct, 2018

<https://www.cabdirect.org/cabdirect/abstract/20183239430>

Midwest Poultry Federation Convention – March 12-14, 2019

Report made available to attendees through mobile app and printed paper in publication bin.

Articles and Web Mentions

AgriMarketing, July 16, 2018

CAST presents highlights of report on free-range poultry

<https://www.agrimarketing.com/s/118221>

AgriPulse, July 18, 2018

Jim Webster, *CAST report finds no advantages to free-range poultry, cage-free eggs*

https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/11247-no-advantages-to-free-range-poultry-cage-free-eggs-cast-finds?utm_source=Instant+Update&utm_campaign=aaba608ae5-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_01_08_COPY_971&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_288ff2b53a-aaba608ae5-48593373

Brownfield Ag News, July 25, 2018

Rhiannon Branch, *Study concludes 'no ideal housing system' for poultry production*

<https://brownfieldagnews.com/news/study-concludes-no-ideal-housing-system-for-poultry-production/>

Feedstuffs, July 18, 2018 (online) and August 6, 2018 (print)

Krissa Welshans, *Study delves into free-range poultry production aspects*

<http://www.feedstuffs.com/news/study-delves-free-range-poultry-production>

NC State Poultry Extension, *New Issue Paper on Free-Range Poultry Production*, by Rhea Hebert, August 6, 2018

<https://poultry.ces.ncsu.edu/2018/08/new-issue-paper-on-free-range-poultry-production/>

SmartBrief, July 20, 2018

Report examines health, welfare issues of free-range poultry production

http://www.smartbrief.com/branded/D5B61895-8343-46AE-9E8D-69BF8059ECA6/3F33E705-3717-4883-AE02-6364EC34EDC7?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

WATTAgNet, *How free-range access impacts poultry, health, welfare*, by Deven King, August 1, 2018

<https://www.wattagnet.com/articles/35187-how-free-range-access-impacts-poultry-health-welfare?v=preview>

Citations

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, *The effect of methyl donor-betaine on quality parameters and nutritional value of chicken broiler leg muscles*, 2019

<https://www.lsmuni.lt/cris/handle/20.500.12512/104081>

World's Poultry Science Journal, Volume 75, Issue 3, pp. 429-444, Published online by Cambridge University Press: 20 August 2019, *Slow-growing male chickens fit poultry production systems with outdoor access*

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/world-s-poultry-science-journal/article/slowgrowing-male-chickens-fit-poultry-production-systems-with-outdoor-access/D8FD9873F17CE9E4ECC3B7FB0FEB1B54>

This report last updated 7/18/2020.

Social Media

Facebook—

Poultry Science Association, May 27, 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/poultryscienceassociation/posts/4151726858178537>

10 likes, 6 shares

Agri-Pulse Communications Inc, July 21, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/AgriPulseDC/posts/2010891005588228>

1 like

Agri-Pulse Communications Inc, July 20, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/AgriPulseDC/posts/2010899025587426>

2 likes and 1 share

Mid America CropLife Association, July 20, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/MACroplifeA/posts/2039252186149439>

CAST, July 11, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/CASTagScience/posts/1812745708820217>

1 like and 1 share

CAST, July 16, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/CASTagScience/posts/1820181204743334>

1 like and 1 share

CAST, July 17, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/CASTagScience/posts/1820150118079776>

2 likes and 1 share

CAST, July 18, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/CASTagScience/posts/1823261054435349>

1 like and 1 share

Jeanette L Lombardo, January 2, 20019

<https://www.facebook.com/jeanette.lombardo.5/posts/2521536757861628>

Twitter—

Agri-Pulse @agripulse, July 18, 2018

<https://twitter.com/agripulse/status/1019700589628882944>

4 retweets and 3 likes

Agri-Pulse @agripulse, July 19, 2018

<https://twitter.com/agripulse/status/1020050652146233344>

2 likes

Agri-Pulse @agripulse, July 20, 2018

<https://twitter.com/agripulse/status/1020443237532614656>

1 retweet and 3 likes

Agri-Pulse @agripulse, July 21, 2018

<https://twitter.com/agripulse/status/1020805622881693696>

2 likes

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Bonnie McCarvel @MidAmericaCrop, July 20, 2018
<https://twitter.com/MidAmericaCrop/status/1020343183069327365>

CAST @CASTagScience, July 18, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1019570101757018112>
1 retweet

CAST @CASTagScience, July 16, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1018889229206720513>

CAST @CASTagScience, July 16, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1018978581823672320>
1 retweet and 1 like

CAST @CASTagScience, July 17, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1019174877968953344>
1 retweet

CAST @CASTagScience, July 13, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1017765495817277440>
1 retweet and 1 like

CAST @CASTagScience, July 11, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1017117582757974016>
1 retweet and 1 like

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<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1020073295490658305>

CAST @CASTagScience, July 20, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1020317913394360320>
1 retweet

CAST @CASTagScience, July 22, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CASTagScience/status/1021017013638975491>
5 retweets and 2 likes

Craig S. Wallace, July, 26, 2018
<https://twitter.com/CraigSWallace1/status/1022496512931184641>

Dan Gogerty @AmesGoges, July 17, 2018
<https://twitter.com/AmesGoges/status/1019200047307722753>

Dr. DDGs @DrDDGs, July 19, 2018
<https://twitter.com/DrDDGs/status/1019913931387822081>

Egg Industry Center @EggIndustryCntr, July 16, 2018
<https://twitter.com/EggIndustryCntr/status/1018978819364065280>

FoodEnvReportingNet @FERNnews, July 19, 2018
<https://twitter.com/FERNnews/status/1020065749665165312>

Jeremy Marchant-Forde @marchantforde, July 23, 2018

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<https://twitter.com/marchantforde/status/1021364689551396864>

John A. Johnson @agpolicywork, July 19, 2018

<https://twitter.com/agpolicywonk/status/1019932297242533888>

2 likes

MarionCoFarmBureau @marioncountyfb, July 20, 2018

<https://twitter.com/marioncountyfb/status/1020451378228088832>

1 like

oneTree Accounting @onetreecpa, July 20, 2018

<https://twitter.com/onetreecpa/status/1020369084846764034>

2 likes

Poultryproducers.com @PoultryProducer, July 16, 2018

<https://twitter.com/PoultryProducer/status/1018798218967244800>

3 likes

Rhiannon Branch @BRNAgNews_RB, July 25, 2018

https://twitter.com/BRNAgNews_RB/status/1022214038044983299

Victoria Broehm @VictoriaBroehm, July 19, 2018

<https://twitter.com/VictoriaBroehm/status/1019933717719142407>

LinkedIn –

CAST, July 12, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6422891559695511552>

CAST, July 17, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6424744362877480960>

CAST, July 17, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6424940758746349568>

CAST, July 18, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6425336056387817472>

CAST, July 22, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6426782988629008384>

CAST, July 19, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6425839091631341568>

Greg Watson, July 19, 2018

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6426099761488764928>

Blogger –

New Research about Free-range Chickens—and Poultry Insights about Backyards and Sexing,

July 16, 2018

<http://cast-science.blogspot.com/2018/07/new-research-about-free-range-chickens.html>

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